

Message Text

SECRET

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65

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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P 021825Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4075

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER PRIORITY

S E C R E T LISBON 5095

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY, DIA WASHDC, USCINCEUR
VAIHINGEN GER, CIA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: "NINE" CONTEMPLATES MILITARY MOVE

1. EMBASSY HAS TODAY FORWARDED TWO REPORTS TO THE DEPARTMENT
NOT REPEATED TO INFO ADDRESSEES POSTS, BOTH OF WHICH POINT TO
POTENTIALLY SERIOUS VIOLENCE IN PORTUGAL. THE PURPOSE OF THIS
TELEGRAM IS TO KEEP ADDRESSES POSTS UP-TO-DATE. THE INFORMATION
COMES TO US FROM SOURCES WITHIN "THE NINE."

2. "THE NINE" BELIEVE THEY NOW HAVE VERY SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY
SUPPORT. THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO BLOCK VASCO GONCALVES FROM
TAKING OFFICE THROUGH POLITICAL MEANS. THEIR STRATEGY IS TO
HAVE AS MANY UNITS AS POSSIBLE DECLARE THEMSELVES AGAINST
GONCALVES, AND TO TRY TO RESTRUCTURE AFM ASSEMBLY TO END

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LEFTIST CONTROL. THIS IS TO BE DONE THROUGH SEPARATE MEETINGS

OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE ASSEMBLIES, THE FORMER TODAY AND THE LATTER TOMMORROW. THEY HOLD OUT LITTLE HOPE OF CHANGING THE NAVY AFM ASSEMBLY DELEGATION.

3. CONCURRENTLY "THE NINE" ARE MAKING PLANS FOR A MILITARY OPERATION IN THE NORTH. ONE SOURCE HAS EVEN TOLD US THAT AMMUNITION IS BEING REQUISITIONED OUT OF LISBON AND STOCKPILED IN NOTHERN ARMORIES. "THE NINE'S" TIMETABLE IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR, BUT THEY SEEM TO BE THINKING OF ACTION WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. IF THEY WIN IN THE AFM ASSEMBLY THEY WOULD OBVIOUSLY NOT INITIATE ACTION, BUT THEY FEEL MILITARY ACTION COULD BE FORCED UPON THEM BY RESULTING COMMUNIST VIOLENCE. IF IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT THEY ARE GOING TO LOSE THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE IN THE ASSEMBLY, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT "THE NINE" COULD ACT ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE BEFORE THE END OF THIS WEEK.

4. EMBASSY SOURCES ARE GOOD ONES AND WE TAKE THIS INFORMATION SEROUSLY. ONE SOURCE TOLD US HE IS SENDING HIS FAMILY OUT OF LISBON IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSIBLE REPRISALS.
CARLUCCI

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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